Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 22, line 23 and ending at page 23, line 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Preferred polypeptides having reverse transcriptase activity for use in the invention include M-MLV reverse transcriptase, RSV reverse transcriptase, AMV reverse transcriptase, Rous Associated Virus (RAV) reverse transcriptase, Myeloblastosis Associated Virus (MAV) reverse transcriptase and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) reverse transcriptase, and others described in WO 98/47921 and derivatives, variants, fragments or mutants thereof, and combinations thereof. In a further preferred embodiment, the reverse transcriptases are reduced or substantially reduced in RNase H activity, and are most preferably selected from the group consisting of M-MLV H^- reverse transcriptase, RSV H^- reverse transcriptase, AMV H^- reverse transcriptase, RAV H^- reverse transcriptase, MAV H^- reverse transcriptase and HIV H^- reverse transcriptase, and derivatives, variants, fragments or mutants thereof, and combinations thereof. Reverse transcriptases of particular interest include AMV RT and M-MLV RT, and more preferably AMV RT and M-MLV RT having reduced or substantially reduced RNase H activity (preferably AMV RT $\alpha H^-/BH^+$ and M-MLV RT H^-). The most preferred reverse transcriptases for use in the invention include ~~SuperScript™, SuperScript™ II, ThermoScript™ and ThermoScript™ II~~ SUPERSCRIPT™ mutant M-MLV RT, SUPERSCRIPT™ II mutant M-MLV RT, THERMOSCRIPT™ mutant AMV RT and THERMOSCRIPT™ II mutant AMV RT available from Life Technologies, Inc. See generally, WO 98/47921, U.S. Patents 5,244,797 and 5,668,005, the entire contents of each of which are herein incorporated by reference)--